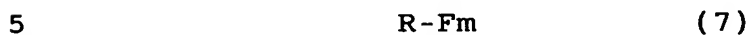


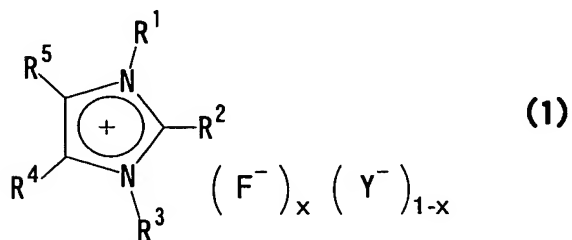
CLAIMS

1. A method for producing a fluorine-containing organic compound represented by the formula (7):



wherein R represents a substituted or unsubstituted saturated hydrocarbon group, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group and m represents an integer satisfying the inequality: $1 \leq m \leq n$,

10 which comprises reacting a fluorinating agent represented by the formula (1):



wherein R^1 and R^3 are the same or different, and represent an optionally substituted alkyl group,

15 R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group,

x satisfies $0 < x \leq 1$, and

Y^- represents a monovalent anion other than a fluoride ion,

20 with an organic compound of the formula (6):



wherein R is the same as defined above, L represents a

leaving group and n represents an integer of 1 or more.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein R is the optionally substituted saturated hydrocarbon group.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein R is the
5 optionally substituted aromatic group.

4. The method according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein
L is a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, an iodine atom, a
nitro group, a sulfo group, an optionally substituted
alkylsulfonyloxy group, an optionally substituted
10 arylsulfonyloxy group, an optionally substituted
alkylcarbonyloxy group or an optionally substituted
arylcarbonyloxy group.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the
fluorinating agent of the formula (1) is an anhydrous salt.

15 6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the
fluorinating agent is an adduct of methanol, water or both.

7. The method according to any one of claims 1-6,
wherein X is 1.

8. The method according to any one of claims 1-6,
20 wherein X satisfies $0 < X < 1$.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein X
satisfies $0.4 < X < 0.9$.

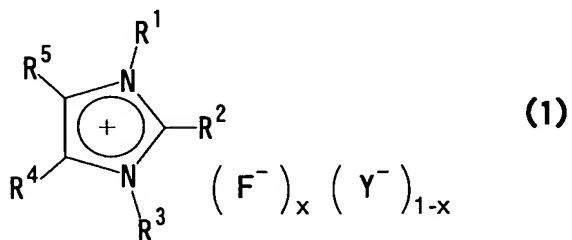
10. The method according to claim 1 or 8, wherein the
monovalent anion represented by Y^- is a halide ion, a
25 borate ion, a phosphate ion, an antimonate ion, a sulfonate

ion, a nitrate ion, a carbonate ion, a carboxylate ion or an amide ion.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein Y^- is Cl^- or Br^- .

5 12. The method according to claim 1, wherein n represents 1, 2 or 3.

13. An imidazolium salt anhydride represented by the formula (1):



10 wherein R^1 and R^3 are the same or different, and represent an optionally substituted alkyl group,

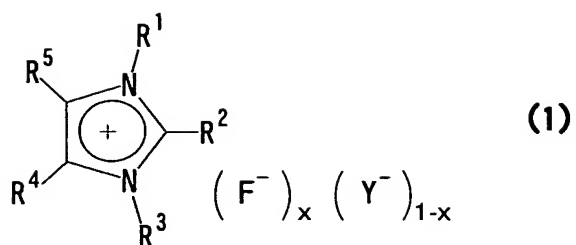
R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group,

x satisfies $0 < x \leq 1$, and

15 Y^- represents a monovalent anion other than a fluoride ion,

provided that excepting in a case that when x represents 1, either R^1 or R^3 represents a methyl group and the other represents an ethyl group.

20 14. An imidazolium salt of the formula (1):



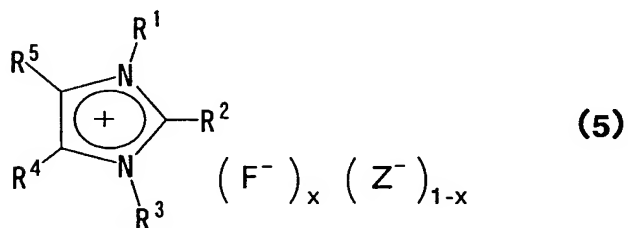
wherein R^1 and R^3 are the same or different, and represent an optionally substituted alkyl group,

R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group, x satisfies $0 < x < 1$, and

Y^- represents a monovalent anion other than a fluoride ion.

15. The imidazolium salt according to claim 13, wherein the monovalent anion represented by Y^- is a halide ion, a borate ion, a phosphate ion, an antimonate ion, a sulfonate ion, a nitrate ion, a carbonate ion, a carboxylate ion or an amide ion.

16. An imidazolium salt of the formula (5):



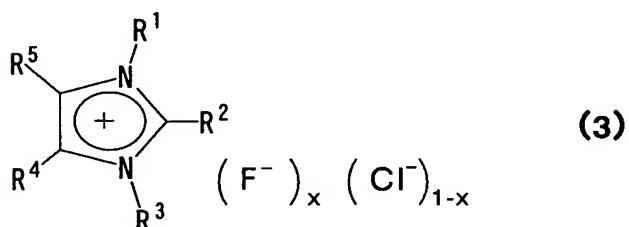
wherein R^1 and R^3 are the same or different, and represent an optionally substituted alkyl group,

R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group,

Z^- represents a chloride ion or a bromide ion, and
 x satisfies $0 < x < 1$.

17. The imidazolium salt according to claim 13, 14, 15 or 16, wherein X satisfies $0.4 < X < 0.9$.

5 18. A method for producing an imidazolium salt of the formula (3):



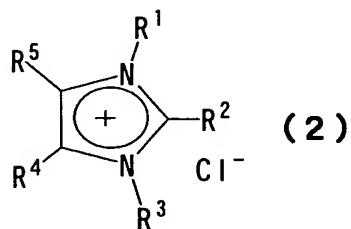
wherein R^1 and R^3 are the same or different, and represent an optionally substituted alkyl group,

10 R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group, and

x satisfies $0 < x \leq 1$,

which comprises reacting an imidazolium chloride

15 represented by the formula (2):

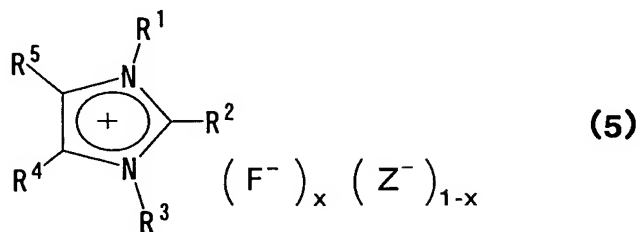


wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are as defined above, with a silver fluoride.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the

silver fluoride is a monovalent silver fluoride.

20. A method for producing an imidazolium salt represented by the formula (5):



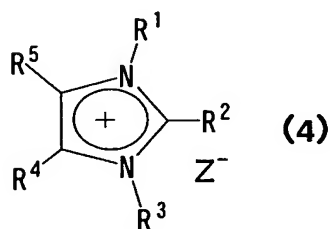
5 wherein R^1 and R^3 are the same or different, and represent an optionally substituted alkyl group,

R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group,

Z^- represents a chloride ion or a bromide ion and

10 x satisfies $0 < x \leq 1$,

which comprises reacting an imidazolium salt of the formula (4):



wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and Z^- are as defined above,

15 with potassium fluoride in methanol.

21. Use of the alkyl-substituted imidazolium salt according to claim 20 as a fluorinating agent.